SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK **A5294**

			6		4		5	
4					2			
	3			8				7
2							7	
	7			5	9			6
	4					9	8	1
6			5	7				4
		1			3	6		
	9				1	7		5

TRICKY **B5294**

	1	7						6
4		8				5		
			4			8		
3	9	4	8					
1		6		2				
			5		1			
6					7	3		5
			3	8	9			7

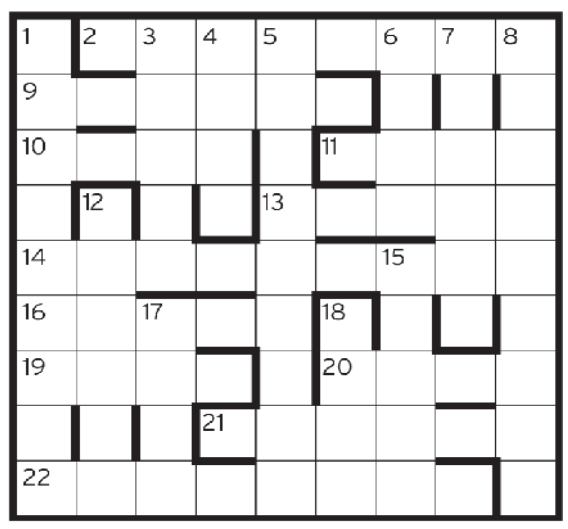
To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerous strategies to help you solve sudoku. For hints and information visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Created by Peter Ritmeester (C) PZZL.com

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

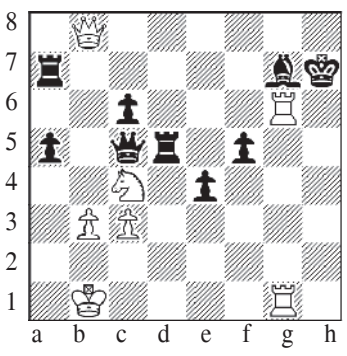
2 Relating to medical procedure (8)
9 Follows (6)
10 Mimicked (4)
11 Young cow (4)
13 Spirit of the lamp (5)
14 Paste ears (anag.) (9)
16 _ Sanderson, former javelin thrower (5)
19 Beers (4)
20 A flower (4)
21 Written for a group of singers (6)
22 Three-wheeled bike (8)



DOWN

1 Initial advantage (4,5)
3 Consume completely (3,2)
4 Impolite (4)
5 School subject (9)
6 Printer's primary colour (4)
7 United (6)
8 Characteristic habits (9)
12 Insect's antenna (6)
15 Spin (5)
17 Type of house, informally (4)
18 Group of nations (4)

CHESS



WHITE MATES IN 2

HINT: FIRST, NUDGE THE KING.

Solution:
1. Rh6ch! Kxh6 2. Qh2 mate! If 1. ... Bxh6, 2. Qg8 mate!
[Ramaswany-Delai '98].

TARGET

T	I	G
O	E	R
C	C	A

HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here?
In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word.
No plurals or verb forms ending in "s".

TODAY'S TARGET

Good 27;

Very good 41;

Excellent 54 (or more).

Solution tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

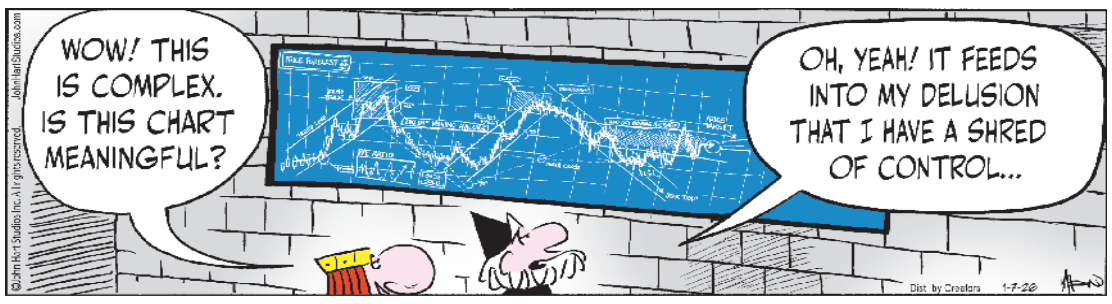
CATCHABLE

abate abet ablate able actable bale batch bate bath bathe beach beat belch belt beta blah bleach bleat cabal cable CATCHABLE hatable tabla table

THE METRO FUNNIES

BIG NATE | BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

THE WIZARD OF ID | BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART


WOW! THIS IS COMPLEX. IS THIS CHART MEANINGFUL?
OH, YEAH! IT FEEDS INTO MY DELUSION THAT I HAVE A SHRED OF CONTROL...
Dist. by Creators

BABY BLUES

WEATHER

Sunset & Sunrise

	Hyderabad	Islamabad	Karachi	Lahore	Peshawar	Quetta
Sunset	05:52pm	05:18pm	05:58pm	05:17pm	05:22pm	05:52pm
Sunrise	07:13am	07:10am	07:17am	07:01am	07:17am	07:25am

Three Day Forecast

	Today				Tomorrow			Day After		
	Min	Max	Outlook	Humidity%	Min	Max	Outlook	Min	Max	Outlook
Faisalabad	4	16	Sunny	82	4	16	Sunny	4	14	Sunny
Hyderabad	8	23	Sunny	48	8	22	Sunny	7	23	Sunny
Islamabad	5	17	Sunny	63	5	17	Sunny	4	15	Sunny
Lahore	5	15	Partly Cloudy	84	4	15	Sunny	4	14	Partly Cloudy
Multan	5	17	Sunny	90	5	18	Sunny	4	17	Sunny
Peshawar	3	18	Sunny	74	2	19	Sunny	2	15	Sunny
Quetta	-3	10	Sunny	55	-2	10	Sunny	-2	10	Sunny

Temperature estimates are internationally sourced and may differ from local estimates.

HELP

EMERGENCIES

Police Help	15, 99212652-53, 99212634
CPLC	1102, 35662222
Fire Brigade	16, 99215007, 99215008.
Bomb Disposal	99212674
KE Complaints	118
Telephone complaints	1218
Railway Inquiry	99213565-66
PCAA Flight Inquiry	99071284, 99071259
	99071265, 114

HOSPITALS

Abbasi Shaheed	99260400-09
Civil Hospital	99215740, 9215960
Jinnah Hospital	99201300-99201301
NICVD	99201271-6
Aga Khan Hospital	34930051
Medicare Hospital	021-111-001-786
Kharadar Gen Hospital	32510113-16
Indus Hospital	35112709
Tabba	36811841, 111844844
Ziauddin Hospital	35862937-9, 36648237-9
Kiran Cancer Hospital	99261601-04
Liaquat National	111-456-456, 34939615
Memon Medical	34691147 — 54
A.O. Clinic	36685564, 3668550-64
Baqai Hospital	36618396, 36618398
Holy Family Hospital	32258994, 32258991
Patel Hospital	111174174
South City Hospital	35374072
Kidney Centre Institute	35661000-10
Karwan-e-Hayat	021-111534111
Usman Memorial	021-36310311-15

AMBULANCE

Edhi	115, 32310066, 32310077
Chhipa	1020
SIEHS/Rescue	1122
St.John	32250500, 32250600
Red Crescent	35306227, 35306228

BLOOD BANK

Fatmid	32225284, 32258656
Husaini	32238405-08
PWA (Civil)	99215740, 99215959

WORD GAME

By Kathleen Saxe

▼ TODAY'S WORD
SHITAKE

(SHITAKE: she-TAH-kee: A dark Asian mushroom.)

Average mark 19 words
Time limit 35 minutes

Can you find 27 or more words in SHITAKE?

The list will be published tomorrow.

SOLUTIONS

▼ YESTERDAY'S WORD – IDENTITY

indie, deity, dent, deny, diet, dine, dint, ditty, edit, entity, nitid, tend, tent, tide, tidy, tied, tine, tint, tinted, tiny, titi, yeti

RULES OF THE GAME:

1. Words must be of four or more letters.
2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s," such as "bats" or "dies," are not allowed.
3. Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used. For example, if "bake" is used, "baked" or "bakes" are not allowed, but "bake" and "baking" are admissible.
4. Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed.

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

ACROSS

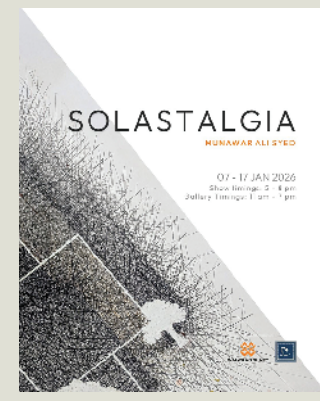
1 Treadmill
7 Extras
9 Aunt
10 Naked
12 Gale
13 Whereupon
14 Oily
16 Retro
18 Sari
19 Cutlet
20 Necessary.

DOWN

1 Teamwork
2 Etna
3 Artery
4 Dangerous
5 Irk
6 Lie low
8 Identity
11 Thieve
12 Guests
15 Gala
17 Tic.

METRO EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS



Solastalgia, an exhibition of artworks by Munawar Ali Syed, opens at Chawkandi Art Gallery, at 5pm. The show will continue till Jan 17, from 11am to 7pm.

Patched Cloak, an exhibition of works by Babar Sheikh, is underway at Vasl Gallery. The show will continue till Jan 17.

SESSION

A session on 'Faith Centered Choices for Muslim Youth: Patience, Moral Strength & Navigating Social Pressures' is organised at Mini Auditorium, Iqra University, EDC campus, at 12noon.

SEMINAR

A seminar on 'Cervical Cancer and Health: From Awareness to Action' is organised at conference room, 5th floor, Iqra University, North campus, at 10am.

IQRA UNIVERSITY NORTH CAMPUS
SEMINAR ON
CERVICAL CANCER AND HEALTH
From Awareness to Action
Guest Speaker
PROF. DR. SHABNAM SHAMIM ASIM
Head of Department, Gynecology Unit II, KMDC

HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

ARIES | March 21-April 19

**** Whether you're at work or doing any task that you set for yourself, your ability to talk to others is top-notch today. It's the perfect time to make your pitch to a boss. You might ask for a raise or a particular favor. A work-related romance might begin. Tonight: Work.

TAURUS | April 20-May 20

***** Such a romantic day! Do something special so you can savor romantic possibilities today. If you're in a relationship, make plans for a big date or a little date. If you're not in a relationship, take yourself out and splurge. Why not? Tonight: Play!

GEMINI | May 21-June 20

**** Family discussions will go well today, especially about matters related to shared property, inheritances, taxes, debt or the cost of home utilities or particular family expenses. You'll be pleased at how it all comes together so beautifully today! Tonight: Cocoon at home.

CANCER | June 21-July 22

**** This is a fantastic day to schmooze! Don't go it alone today. Get out and chat with siblings, relatives and neighbors. Time spent with close friends and partners will be rewarding. Discussions will be friendly and might focus more than usual on the arts. Tonight: Study and learn.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 22

**** This is a good money day for you. You might see how to boost your earnings related to your work or your job. You might spend money to make your workspace look more attractive. You also might buy a gift for a co-worker or begin a saucy flirtation. Tonight: Check your money.

VIRGO | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

***** This is an amazing day for your sign! The Moon is in VIRGO dancing beautifully with Mercury, the Sun, Venus and Mars. Whatever you want to do today will flow smoothly. Take time out of your day to socialize with romantic partners, kids or friends. Sports events, the arts and fun outings will delight you! Tonight: You've got this.

LIBRA | Sept. 23-Oct. 22

**** With a strong focus on home and family right now, you will welcome a chance to work alone or behind the scenes so that you can catch your breath. You're a very social sign, but sometimes you can run around being all things to all people and suddenly you need to regroup. Take a beat. Tonight: Privacy.

SCORPIO | Oct. 23-Nov. 21

**** Conversations with siblings, relatives and neighbors, as well as clubs or organizations that you're involved with, will be meaningful today. People might be inspired by what you have to say. In turn, you might feel romantically attracted to someone. Tonight: Enjoy friendships.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 22-Dec. 21

**** You make a fabulous impression on everyone today, which is why you might be able to do something that leads to a boost in your wealth. It might even lead to a better paying job. Don't hesitate to talk to bosses and people in authority and ask for what you want. Tonight: You're admired.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

***** It's a great day to travel. You're eager to expand your world by seeing exciting places and meeting interesting people. Check out opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine and the law. Do something different that excites you. This will include a romantic interest or an over-the-top date. Tonight: Explore!

AQUARIUS | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

**** Even though you might choose to work behind the scenes, today you're in an excellent position to negotiate financial matters related to inheritances, shared property, banking issues, taxes or insurance. These discussions will go in your favor. Know this ahead of time. Tonight: Check your finances.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

**** It's a fantastic day to schmooze! You're popular today and you might impress your partner or a friend by your ability to win over others. They'll be impressed with how everyone loves you. Home improvements or involvement in charitable activities will go well. This is a winning day! Tonight: Listen.

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-so-so; 1-Difficult

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bidding Quiz

By Steve Becker

It's a very logical game

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 8 6
♥ Q 4
♦ J 9 5
♣ A K J 9 2

WEST
♠ 10 7 5
♥ A J 9 6 2
♦ K 6 2
♣ 7 3

EAST
♠ J 4 3 2
♥ 10 7 5
♦ 8 7 3
♣ Q 6 4

SOUTH
♠ A Q 9
♥ K 8 3
♦ A Q 10 4
♣ 10 8 5

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT			

Opening lead -- six of hearts.

Let's say you're declarer at three notrump and West leads a heart. Your first problem is whether to play the queen or the four from dummy -- but this is not really a difficult choice. It's better to play the queen, but let's see why.

If the queen wins, which means that West has the ace, you're on absolutely firm ground. At trick two, you lead the nine of diamonds and finesse. Win or lose, the contract is safe. If West has the king of diamonds, he can't stop you from scoring nine tricks, while if East has the king, you're sure of at least 10 tricks.

Now let's assume that East has the ace of hearts. He takes the queen with the ace and returns a heart, which you duck. You win the next heart and must then choose between a diamond or a club finesse.

Again, the choice is not difficult. Because West's remaining hearts pose a threat to the contract, you take the club finesse instead because East can do you no harm if he has the queen. In the actual deal, the club finesse loses and East does not have a heart to return. When he returns a diamond, you rise with the ace and scamper off with nine tricks.

Finally, if East does have a heart to return, it means the hearts were originally divided 4-4, so you still make the contract, losing three hearts and a club.

Note how straightforward logic dictates why you should play the queen of hearts at trick one, and also which suit -- diamonds or clubs -- to attack next, depending on who turns up with the ace of hearts. Bridge is a logical game.

Tomorrow: Silence is golden.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Quick — A5293

4	9	5	2	1	7	3	8	6
8	7	6	9	3	5	2	1	4
2	3	1	8	6	4	9	7	5
1	5	7	6	9	3	4	2	8
9	8	3	4	7	2	5	6	1
6	2	4	1	5	8	7	3	9
5	6	8	3	2	9	1	4	7
3	4	9	7	8	1	6	5	2
7	1	2	5	4	6	8	9	3

Tricky — B5293

7	4	9	3	1	2	8	5	6
8	1	5	7	4	6	2	3	9
3	2	6	5	8	9	7	4	1
6	8	2	4	9	7	5	1	3
4	9	1	2	3	5	6	8	7
5	7	3	8	6	1	9	2	4
1	3	7	9	2	8	4	6	5
2	5	4	6	7	3	1	9	8
9	6	8	1	5	4	3	7	2